

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

On page 2, please replace Paragraph [0010] with the following new paragraph [0010].

[0010] In accordance with the present invention, the resin sub-seal means is disposed at a position closer to the higher-pressure side region than ~~[[he]]~~ the rubber main seal means. The sub-seal means is able to inhibit a rapid change in the pressure of the gas surrounding the main seal means which may result from a pressure variation in the gas on the higher-pressure side. Further, the pressure variation reducing means is disposed between the main seal means and the sub-seal means. If the gas leaks through the sub-seal means or the sub-seal means responds with a delay with respect to the pressure variation in the gas on the higher-pressure side, the varied pressure of the gas on the higher-pressure side is not directly transmitted to the main seal means but the pressure with variation reduced by the pressure variation reducing means is transmitted to the main seal means. The seal structure is able to surely inhibit rapid change in the pressure of the gas surrounding the main seal means. The seal structure is able to have a high seal ability using the rubber main seal means with a high seal ability, and to inhibit occurrence of the blistering phenomenon in the main seal means because of an influence of the pressure variation of the gas on the higher-pressure side in the large variation range between a high pressure and a low pressure. So, the seal structure of the present invention can be suitably used to inhibit leakage of the gas, the pressure of which varies greatly and becomes a high-pressure. The seal structure is achieved by a simple structure including the main seal means, the sub-seal means, and the pressure variation reducing means.

On page 9, please replace Paragraph [0036] with the following new paragraph [0036].

[0036] The main seal member 10 is an annular seal member and is formed of, for example, an O-ring. This O-ring is an O-ring according to, for example, JIS B 2401, or a commercially available O-ring. At least one of the members 7 and 8 is provided with a concave portion on a surface region thereof to form a main seal member holding space 19 continuous with the gap 4. The main seal member 10 is fitted into the main seal member holding space 19 ~~[[to]]~~ so as to elastically contact the members 7 and 8. In this embodiment,

the member 8 is provided with the concave portion to form the main seal member holding space 19.

On page 12, please replace Paragraph [0046] with the following new paragraph [0046].

[0046] The pressure in the outside space 6 and the pressure in the variation reducing space 13 of the pressure variation reducing means 12 are introduced to the main [[seam]] seal member 10. These pressures become the pressure of the gas surrounding the main [[seam]] seal member 10. If these pressures are set not to be higher than the blistering occurrence limit pressure  $P_{bc}$  of the main seal member 10 which is the rubber member, or set not to rapidly decrease, then occurrence of the blistering phenomenon of the main seal member 10 is inhibited. The pressure of the gas in the outside space 6 is an atmospheric pressure  $P_{atm}$ , a low pressure, and a substantially constant pressure. Therefore, if the pressure in the variation reducing space 13 is set not to be higher than the blistering occurrence limit pressure  $P_{bc}$  or set not to rapidly decrease, then occurrence of the blistering phenomenon is inhibited.